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AND ALL THE LITTLE BEASTS RUN TO COVER AND
KEEP AS STILL AS MICE—BUT KEEP THEIR
HEADS WITHIN "MACHINE" BOUNDS.

How Two Goldbug and Corporation Papers Bull-Dozed a Big Com-
mittee—The Lines Laid Down and the Boys Toe the Mark—Or-
ders Given in Honied Words and by Bold Defiance.

It was a bee-y-tu-fal sight.

The Democratic machine State Committee met.

There had been some talk of saying something and doing something.

But it was not done.

Orders came from the "Boss Whippersn" to keep quiet, for the Boss was not yet ready.

True, the orders came in a queer way, but they were understood as they were obeyed.

And it was known where they came from.

The machine will whoop for silver and reform to houndkink the people but will not follow the reform leader of the country.

Here is the way in which the orders came:

Charlotte Observer, (Goldbug):

The Democratic State Executive Committee meets at Raleigh to-night and we wish to bring a few facts to its attention in its organized capacity and as the representative organs of the Democratic party. For months and months this paper has been in the hands of the objects of persistent, continuous, malicious attacks and it is now the subject of three or four newspapers. It has been represented in one breath that the Observer desires to bring about the disintegration of the State last year and is helping to disrupt it now, and in the next breath that it is without it and that it is a mere tool of the machine and not a handful. There has been no cessation in this nagging, its object being to drive the party into the hands of the public man—a harbor in which neither will ever take refuge. No word of protest but one has been against this senseless and indecent warfare, but when, on one or two occasions, the machine has threatened and leveled a few well-directed blows at the pack at its heels, the cry has gone up, "Let them alone, we desire to keep the peace and fight the enemy." This notwithstanding the fact that our assailants have forgotten the fact that the machine is not within the party, we have remained silent under the impression that the machine policy has heightened their impotent rage.

Now, however, we desire to say that after the question of certain degree of violence the question of self-protection becomes involved. If this concerted and malicious warfare continues we shall take out letters of marque and reprisal and shall then make the situation as entertaining as possible for all beholders. This matter is not within the province of the executive committee and we bring it to its attention asking only that it take note of the facts and have the fairness to bring the responsibility where it belongs in the case of an internal war in an ordinary text and discreet party.

What Bryan Says.

"While it is always difficult to secure harmonious co-operation between distinct and separate political organizations, there are times when this co-operation is both wise and necessary. In the campaign of 1896, the Democratic, Populist and Socialist parties entered into a coalition, and they agreed in declaring that the money question was the paramount issue of the campaign. The question now arises, should these three political organizations act together in the Congressional campaign of 1898?"

Yes.

"Those who answer no must assume the burden of proving first, that co-operation was unwise in 1896, or second, that conditions have so changed as to make unwise now, what was wise then. The first of these is a question of fact, and the second is a question of opinion. At that time to have been unwise, unless it can be shown that some one party would have been more successful than the three combined."

"The second question is one of expediency. The abandonment of party organization or the surrender of any political principles, now in co-operation defended on the ground that the platforms of the three parties are identical. Campaigns generally turn upon a few issues, and these issues, and events do much to determine which issue shall be the central public attention."

Now, any one who analyzes can see that the Charlotte Observer boldly says:—"If you do anything to antagonize my position or reflect on me in any way, I'll jump on you and make the fur fly, and with my backing I'll help to bust up the machine."

The Observer is tactically antagonistic financial reform, and doesn't want an official rebuke for its attitude.

The Post rubs the boys down the back and says: "Pretty puss! no you won't, will you puss! If you do, I'll just call up the Boss who give you your present position on the committee, and see how much authority YOU are given."

As before stated, these orders were obeyed. The committee did nothing and the next morning the Post said:

"The resolution of the Executive Committee last night are within the lines laid down yesterday by Mr. Jones' address to the Democratic State Convention. It is a fact that the Boss' address of last night is a mere suggestion. It does nothing more than to suggest that the Executive Committee should not endorse the action of the committee in endorsing last night, of inviting all who believe in Democratic principles to unite with the Democratic party and restore good government in the nation as well as the State."

The Charlotte Observer has said nothing, but it knows it has not been "insulted" against, and its silence may be taken for satisfaction.

Now re-read what Bryan says. Gracious! how this very machine and its journalism whooped for Bryan in 1896. The fact that it does not support him now, without fear and without reservation is the best possible proof that there is no such thing as a machine. It is a mere tool of the machine. We know there is its sincerity in its professions now. If it had been sincere, the roar of the goldbug paper and monopoly journal could not have frightened it. It knows the rank and file of its party stand for and favors financial reform at almost any price, and there was no possible excuse for trepidation or reservation. If the machine had been sincere, it would have been the first to have been the first to have been the first.

First. Not only the address of Chairman Jones, but ALL THREE of the Reform addresses recently issued.

Second. Every word above quoted from Bryan.

There can be no refuge in or hiding behind the plea that the committee had no "authority" to endorse all the addresses and Bryan.

And the support of the convention should not endorse the action of the committee in endorsing all the three addresses!

Why, the result would be that the committee would shine out HONEST and SQUARE, and the convention prove itself a fraud.

It may be time to recall a fact and recite a justification.

It is a fact that in 1896, some Populists could not understand why Congressional co-operation was not effected between Populists and Democrats, and because it was not, became some what offended at the Populist State committee.

But the committee, at that time, was better situated to watch and comprehend than the people generally.

And the machine was a self and bigoted spirit just shown by the Democratic State committee.

It knew that the Dem machine was looking more particularly after its own interests than the interests of the people generally, and that spirit was what failed to win the confidence of the Populist committee.

Here is the same spirit again; and after it is examined into, there will be the same spirit again, and the same spirit again, in this State between the two parties advocating practically the same platform.

The Populist committee endorsed no Congressional candidate until that candidate said in writing that he favored silver or was unalterably opposed to the gold standard.

One of these candidates, it appears, has since his election, become a supporter of the gold standard.

But the Populists are no more responsible for that than the Democrats claim to be for the betrayal of Cleveland and Ransom & Co.

The Populist State Committee was consistent and honest all the way through the Congressional fight, and the recent action of the Democratic committee is a full vindication of its action to those who may have heretofore been misled.

Here you see the goldbug shake his mane.

You see the monopoly cormorant flap his wing.

And you see the Democratic reformation quaver, and decline to go one step beyond the limits of low, partisan machine politics.

Is Bryan their leader any longer?

Yes, why fear or fail to follow him?

The said Jones' address was "patriotic."

If so, why are not the addresses of Towne and Butler "patriotic?"

Do not, why not all look to the same end?

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